

Documentation of Best Practices under thematic area of

## Role of PRIs in Management of Solid and Liquid Waste



## VILLAGE JHATTIPUR

District Panipat - Haryana

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# Abbreviations

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<b>PRIs</b>	Panchayati Raj Institutions
<b>TSC</b>	Total Sanitation Campaign
<b>CAA</b>	Constitutional Amendment Act
<b>NBA</b>	Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan
<b>SBM</b>	Swacch Bharat Mission
<b>MGNREGS</b>	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
<b>GP</b>	Gram Panchayat
<b>CRRID</b>	Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development
<b>NIRD&amp;PR</b>	National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
<b>ER</b>	Elected Representatives
<b>SLWM</b>	Solid and Liquid Waste Management
<b>IHHL</b>	Individual Household latrine

## Executive Summary

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The relevant data and information has been called from various stakeholders through focus group discussion meeting, individual household interview and verification of the different sites, where activities on sanitation and liquid at solid waste management has been performed. The whole outcome of the present study is based on these indicators. The village has shown tremendous achievement in providing quality life to its resident's not only through providing a clean and hygienic environment but with cent per cent coverage of individual toilets, all around cleanliness of village, effective waste water disposal system through a chain of systematic sewerage, plantation, Solar street lights, Free Wi-Fi, CCTV coverage of full village and the being the first cash less village of Haryana state.

The Jhattipur village is located under the block and district of Panipat in the state of Haryana. It is situated around 90 kilometres from national capital of New Delhi and 175 kilometres from state capital of Chandigarh. The village has close proximity to the GT Road or National Highway no.1, connecting Chandigarh to Delhi.

The gram panchayats also took decision to purchase e-rickshaw to collect and transport the garbage from respective households to treatment plant. It was also devised that the salary of garbage collector rickshaw puller will be met from selling of recycled material which was very unique in terms of limited resources of panchayat. Vermi-compost unit was also installed at the solid waste plant to use organic waste into manure through MGNREGS. Each *Panch* (panchayat member) was designated to create awareness in their respective wards to motivate people to achieve sustainability in this exercise.

The main lesson learnt from this village that the PRIs can drive any change and overcome any challenge pose for the development of the village. This best practice has also established the fact that education plays an important role in progress of any society. The young village head delivered what he had dreamed to make the impossible change amid factionalism. It also showed us that a dedicated set of mindsets are required to bring any change in the situation. The campaign's success is additionally due to the whole hearted support from the district administration and above all the residents of the Jhattipur village coming forward to embrace this positive change in their lifestyle. The best practices at Jhattipur village are progressing at a rapid pace, with more and more activities becoming part of this campaign and show the commitment of the panchayat members to deliver services at every doorstep.







## Introduction

**The** 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 has endowed gram panchayats with executive powers and authority to function them as units of self-government and had legitimated their status from non-justifiable to justifiable part of the constitution. Since the passage of this act, gram panchayats and their elected representatives across the nation have played a pivotal role in the implementation of rural development schemes and programmes at grassroots level and has accelerated the pace of development in rural India. The 11<sup>th</sup> Schedule has enshrined 29 subjects to Panchayats and among these, 23<sup>rd</sup> subject is related to the Health and Sanitation sector which have been also vested within the purview of the panchayats.

Since the last two decades, safe sanitation practices in rural areas have got immense attentions from policy makers and political avenues. Given the importance of this indicator, unprecedented flows of funds and awareness generation have been channelled by government for scaling up rural sanitation in country. However, recent evidences indicates that efforts made for meeting the sanitation challenges have been found to have limited results at ground level. There are set of roadblocks attributed towards this under achievement of success rate in sanitation programmes in rural areas. One of the most underlying barriers is the non-active executive or implementing agency at the grass root level to efficiently deal and implement the schemes or programmes meant for rural sanitation.

To overcome such challenges, the centre government's has taken initiatives since 1986, with the objectives of accelerating sanitation coverage in rural areas with the introduction of Central Rural Sanitation Programme followed by Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in 1999, and similar successive missions and programmes.

Under these programmes, government devised suitable approaches to motivate communities and rural local self governments in the implementation of sanitation programme. The overall objective of this exercise was to develop community managed environmental sanitation system through PRIs, focusing on rural sanitation including of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM). Capacity Building Programmes of all the primary and secondary stakeholders were also undertaken to strengthen the implementation process for sustainable rural sanitation process.

In addition, the architects of many rural development schemes like MGNREGS, BRGF and many other similar schemes, have laid their focus on decentralised planning to enhance the role of panchayati raj institutions to achieve optimum results at grassroots level. Apart from other areas of concern, many such



efforts were emphasised to use gram panchayats as a wheel to accelerate the compelling need for creation of sanitation facilities and practices in villages viz-a-viz to urban sector.

In recent times, the Swachh Bharat Mission (R) has given a great deal of opportunity to elected representatives of panchayat bodies to commit to scaling-up sanitation and accordingly, enhancing quality of life of common villagers. They are further given the responsibility for design, implementation, operation and maintenance (O&M) of SLWM systems at grassroots level with the support from respective state governments.

MGNREGA and other such schemes, where planning process is done through panchayats, had fuelled the pace of sanitation activities through convergence at villages. All this process signifies the importance of PRIs in scaling up the sanitation at rural avenues and manifolds their role in development of village.

### **Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) in Rural Sector**

The management of discarded Solid and Liquid material which is unfit for further human use, through its collection, transportation, recycling, treatment and safe disposal through proper scientific manner is called SLWM.

The pace of development has been always focused in the urban areas. With the emergence of urban areas and transformations of small towns into cities and cities into metros, the management of solid and liquid waste raised new challenges. To handle the situation of waste materials in cities, various policies and mechanism were devised. However, for a long period of time, scientific disposal and management of solid/liquid wastes were remained subjected to urban avenues in the country. Rural areas with their traditional methodologies continued to struggle to dispose off their wastes without any technical know-how. In addition, with the ongoing rapid modernisation and post liberalisation-era, the rural areas have been severely affected with the

increased piles of solid and liquid wastes. Lack of inadequate sanitation facilities, technology and physical challenges such as unplanned settlements & drains have also manifolded the risk of increased health burdens and environmental costs in the rural areas.

In such circumstances, there was a dire need to create a sustainable mechanism for addressing SLWM in villages. As mentioned before, the 73<sup>rd</sup> CAA and 11<sup>th</sup> schedule of constitution has empowered the rural local self governance i.e. PRIs to deal the situation of sanitation at village level. It enabled them to adopt cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable community managed sanitation systems focusing on scientific Solid & Liquid Waste Management systems for overall cleanliness in the rural areas.

Recently launched "Swachh Bharat Mission" has accelerated the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation in India. One of the most important aspects of this programme was to achieve 100 percent open defecation free and overall cleanliness through solid and liquid waste management in the rural areas.

The spectrums of the SBM programme lays about an improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas, by promoting cleanliness and motivate communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions to adopt sustainable sanitation practices and facilities through awareness creation and better implementation of schemes meant for rural sanitation.

It may be noted that, the nature of solid and liquid waste in the villages has been mostly less or non-toxic as compared to the urban wastes. Because of such nature, composting and recycling as manure is a highly suitable method of waste management in rural areas which is further very useful for agriculture.

## **PRESENT CONTEXT**

As discussed before, constitution has vested panchayats to deal health and sanitation sector at the village level by means of planning, execution and implementation. With such mandates and provisions, it is expected that every village panchayat will promote safe sanitation and clean environment as a way of life among its residents. However, still few panchayat bodies across nation have equipped themselves with very effective mechanism to deal sanitation issues. This difference makes the most sought after questions that what are the reasons behind this gap that within the same existing rural bodies.

The present success story of best practices achieved by Gram Panchayat **Jhattipur (*District Panipat, Haryana*)** documented in this report is one such endeavour. It shows the excellent role played by the gram panchayat and its elected representatives in management of solid & liquid waste at grass root level within a very short span of time against all the odds.

The present study seeks the initiatives taken by the Jhattipur panchayat; especially by the panchayat's Sarpanch and his efforts to remodel the village into a smart village and the adopted best practices & approaches in sanitation. It explores gram panchayats initiatives viz-a-viz the role of financial support and its need in making service delivery mechanism for effective rural sanitation drive and finds that whether the incentives and rewards are workable and making community more responsive to the programme. Study seeks the performance and outcome of the best practices at gram panchayat level to manage a comprehensive environmental sanitation system by developing key strategies and mechanism of rural sanitation at decentralize low cost solid and waste water treatment for rural area, which is a reliable and replicable across the state. This study will also be helpful in suggesting

suitable measures to accelerate the implementation process with efficient and effective approach in other parts of the country

The study's main emphasis has been given only on the representation of the main events and activities carried out by gram panchayat to achieve accomplishments in thematic area of documentation.

## **SELECTION OF VILLAGE**

The Jhattipur gram panchayat has been selected for the documentation of best practices under the thematic area of "Role of PRIs in Solid and Liquid Waste Management" in the state of Haryana. The village was identified and selected for the study with the consultation of Rural Development and Panchayats Department, Government of Haryana.

The selected village of Jhattipur has witnessed an unprecedented success in management of liquid waste and overall progress in sanitation and other socio-ecological activities within the past two years. The relevant data and information has been called from various stakeholders through focus group discussion meeting, individual household interview and verification of the different sites, where activities on sanitation and liquid at solid waste management has been performed. The whole outcome of the present study is based on these indicators. The village has shown tremendous achievement in providing quality life to its resident's not only through providing a clean and hygienic environment but with cent per cent coverage of individual toilets, all around cleanliness of village, effective waste water disposal system through a chain of systematic sewerage, plantation, Solar street lights, Free Wi-Fi, CCTV coverage of full village and the being the first cash less village of Haryana state. All these achievements have formed the reasons to select this village for the documentation under the study.



## **METHODOLOGY**

A two member's field team led by the study coordinator visited the village and interacted with the elected members of the panchayat, members of gram sabha and village level functionaries in order to assess and document the process through which this best practices have been achieved by the village. Focus Group Discussions and meeting were held with various primary and secondary stakeholders to gain first hand impressions of the motivation and key activities which has not only led the gram panchayat but also entire community to actively participate in the drive but also to sustain this model from the past few years.

The research team also visited the schools in the village and interacted with the students. Team also verified the usage of IHHL in many households in the village particularly of Scheduled caste and backward classes. The team also visited playgrounds, ponds, parks, playgrounds, plantation work, Anganwari centre, community places and solid & liquid waste treatment plant in the village during their visit. During this, all the activities were well documented through videography and photography. The efforts to make village unique and a role model on sanitation purpose, the contribution of each and every stakeholders has been recorded and discussed in this report.

## **History and Background of the Village**

The Jhattipur village is located under the block and district of Panipat in the state of Haryana. It is situated around 90 kilometres from national capital of New Delhi and 175 kilometres from state capital of Chandigarh. The village has close proximity to the GT Road or National Highway no.1, connecting Chandigarh to Delhi. This is medium size village and has mostly farming community. There are a total of 1047 households in the village. The total population of the village is 5743 and out of them, 2764 are females. The village habitation extends approximately in around 52 acres and has divided in

thirteen (13) wards. The total agricultural land is approximately 515 acres. The village has a predominantly Hindu population.

### **Gram Panchayat Details**

The present Gram panchayat body was elected in 2016. There are 13 panches in the gram panchayat body along with Sarpanch Sh. Ashok Kumar, who is a first time office bearer in any capacity.

### **Situation before the Best practice**

During the FGDs, conducted in the village, the Gram panchayat members along with Sarpanch and the residents reported that situation of sanitation and management of solid and especially liquid waste was in a very awful condition. The following problems were the main concerns of the village panchayat that needed immediate remedial;

1. The drainage system of the village was barely functioning and waste water was overflowing at many places in the village. The foul smell of this stagnated water was permanent feature in the environment of the village. Malaria and other water vector diseases were frequent. The main cause for such condition of the drainage system was old and failed to comply with the unplanned construction of new settlements, houses and streets. Hence, gram panchayat was keen to resolve this issue as earliest to manage village's liquid waste management.
2. Their second main concern was management of discarded household's solid waste, which was in alarming condition when present panchayat body took their office. The FGDs members revealed that the main hindrance to resolve this issue, was people's attitude as they do not care about the fact that piles of garbage can pose serious health hazards and in-fact had had multiplier effects on overall sanitation issues in the village. There was no system to collect, transport or recycle the solid waste in the village. People would throw their discarded matter wherever they desired

and thus, such places were common at majority of the streets in village. Therefore, this issue was in their priority to deal it accordingly

3. Open Defecation: The centre and state government has initiated to give hefty incentives to prevent open defecation but it was still unchecked and people were still prefer to defecate openly. However, Haryana state has become close to attain zero open defecation status but still there are some pockets and where it has been practised especially among the male members of the society due to the rigid traditional beliefs of society. The same behaviour was common in the village and some households and villagers were prefer to go outside rather than constructing toilets in their households.
4. Bad Conditions of Ponds; though, like any other village of the region, ponds were constructed periphery of the village to deal the liquid waste but their condition was also very terrible.
5. The cleanliness of village streets and community places was in very poor conditions.
6. Plantation in village was scarce.
7. Other allied activities related to sanitation and environment were absent in the village.

### **Key Role of Sarpanch (Village Head) in implementing Best practice**

The transformation of village Jhattipur may sound hurried and though all the accomplishment has been completed within a year. But for Sarpanch, Sh. Ashok Kumar, in his late thirties, who was born and brought up in this village, it was a long battle. He gives all this credit to his education, as he holds a Master's degree in Political science & Philosophy. He is also equipped with a Law degree from Kurukshetra University, which have helped him to understand all the minute procedures and provisions; he has to deal as a village head.

Well before he was elected in the panchayats, he had closely watch panchayats affairs and its working as his cousin brother was Sarpanch before his term. Since then, he had progressive ideas and made various plans on village development and how to made progress in his village. He wanted to provide all the amenities and infrastructure, required for any modern civilised settlements to his village, as he has seen in the urban areas. However, he wanted all this in possible manner and to abide by government norms in the strictest manner possible, with zero corruption.

After he elected as Sarpanch in 2016, he got the opportunity to implement all those ideas and plans, such as those related to sanitation, health and the environment. He played a key role or could say solely changed the scenario of the village and established Jhattipur as a role model.



**Sarpanch in a meeting with Field team**



## Financial Outlay for Executing Best practice

The main funds used for sanitation and other related purposes were received from CSR funding from seven industrial units based in the village and volunteer funds collected from gram sabha members. It is to be noted that No funding was received from SBM (G) by the village as per the details received by study team.

Table 1.1: **Flow of Funds to GP used for Sanitation and related Activities**

Type of Funds	Amount received	Works executed
XEN Rural Development & Panchayat Department, Government of Haryana	9,95,000	Construction of Solid waste Management Plant
CSR funds (From seven companies situated at village)	32,02,000	1. Rain Harvesting system 2. Tree Guards 3. E-toilets in schools
MGNREGA	3,73,000	Desilting and digging of village ponds
Assistance from Lions Clubs (NGO)	1,78,000	C/o Toilets and Classrooms in Girls school
Sh. Ravindra Singh (Social Worker)	85,000	Tree Guards and Plantation
Sh. Ashok Kumar (Sarpanch, Village) {From his own pocket}	10,63,200	1. Tree Guards 2. Water Cooler in school 3. Smart Classrooms in schools 4. Plantations in village
Volunteer Collection of Funds from various Gram sabha Members	40,38,000	1. Liquid Waste management 2. Digging of Ponds

Table 1.1: **Flow of Funds to GP from Governments Sources**

Sr.No	Name of Scheme	Year	Amount
1.	Surcharge on VAT	2014-15	3,00,000
2.	Surcharge on VAT	2014-15	3,86,000
3.	Surcharge on VAT	2014-15	5,72,000
4.	Surcharge on VAT	2014-15	8,21,000
5.	Surcharge on VAT	2014-15	5,47,000
6.	3 <sup>rd</sup> State Finance Commission	2014-15	15,00,000
7.	Haryana Gramin Vikas Yojna	2016-17	9,47,000
8.	Surcharge on VAT	2016-17	4,49,731
9.	Special Dev. Works	2016-17	5,00,000
10.	5 <sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission	2016-17	6,09,916
11.	5 <sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission	2017-18	2,86,797

## **LAYING THE FOUNDATION: INITIATION OF ACTIVITIES**

Jhattipur village has been emerged as a torch bearer of rural sanitation and smart village amid traditional rural settings of farming community in the northern state of Haryana within a very short span of two years. Due to the commendable efforts of such small society willing to change the sanitation scenario of rural India, Haryana state has topped in a recent rural sanitation survey along with Kerala in 2017, conducted by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India.

### **Strategy for Management of Solid and Liquid Waste**

As mentioned earlier, the situation of the village was very different and critical in the terms of sanitation facilities and health, however things started to change when in 2016, new panchayat was elected with their new Sarpanch, Mr. Ashok Kumar, who has a dream to change and transform his native village into a smart village.

Being well educated and authoritative in nature, his first step was to connect his village community who has been deeply divided on basis of caste and creed. He reconciled the differences among all the groups of society and assured them that any development related activity would be done without any biased system.

He urged the villagers to collaborate in his efforts to curb all the unhygienic practices prevailing in the village. He especially targeted the youth of village as he foresaw the potential and desires of the village's youth to change their village into develop area. He reported that the youth of his village are getting regular exposure of urban amenities due to their proximity with the national capital Delhi and the Grand trunk road that connects Delhi to Chandigarh, it was easy to drive youths to brought change in their village and to develop it as same as urban areas. Initially, villagers were sceptics and non-cooperative

with his plans and the roadmap, he has prepared for the overall development of the village but lately he managed to convince them to participate in this drive to implement this strategy the following details of activities are carried out in order to establish the best practices of sanitation and other allied indicators.

### **1. Steps taken by GPs to promote Solid waste management**

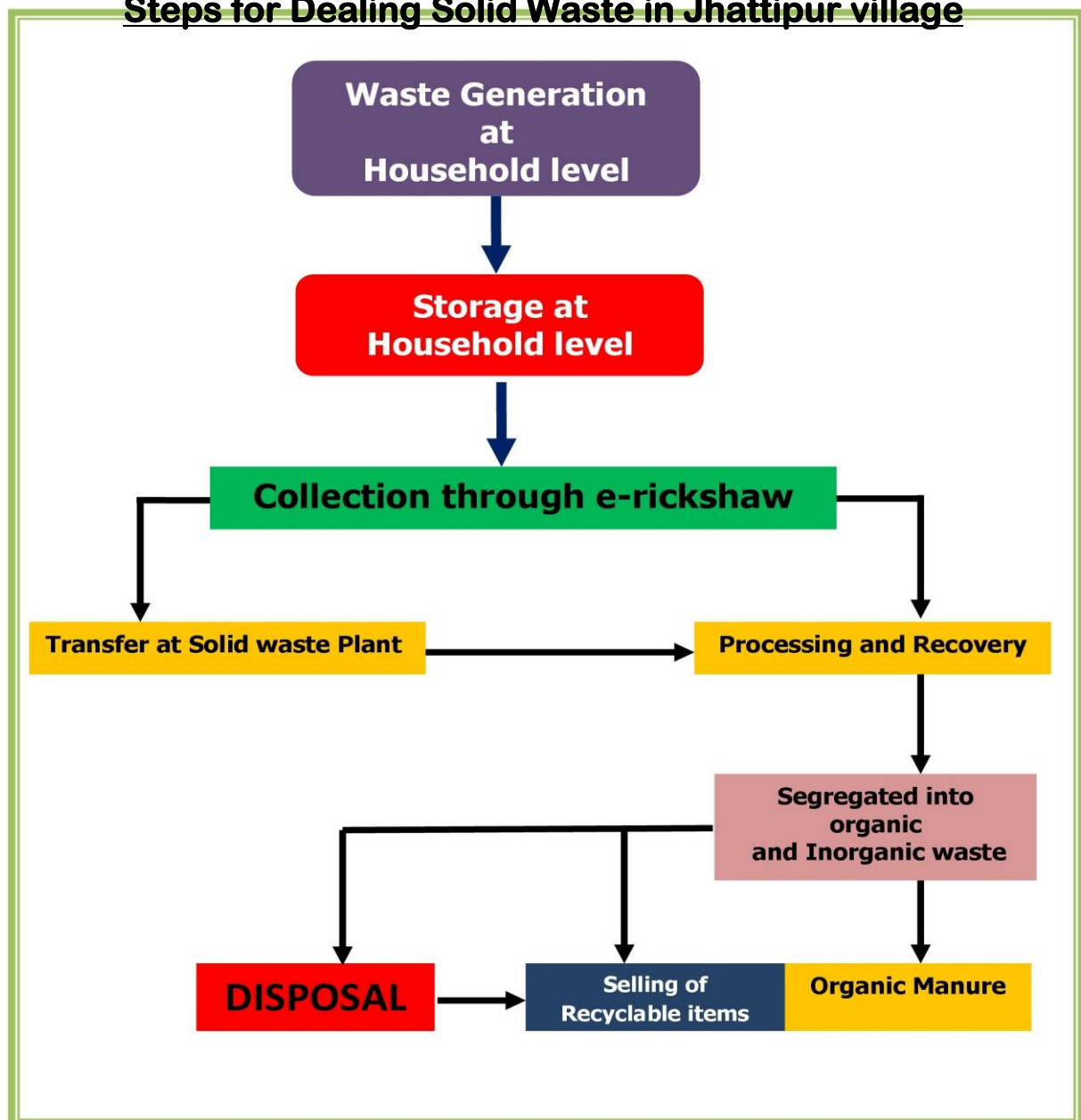
After gram panchayat members took the office in February, 2016, they called a meeting of gram sabha on 19-4 2016 and further made three committees to resolve these problems. The following committees were constituted in order to prepare and execute plans related to health & sanitation;

1. Village Sanitation Committee
2. Solid/Liquid Waste Management Committee
3. Water Preservation Committee

The Sarpanch chaired these three committees and started an action plan with the co-operation of educated youth of the village. A delegation of gram panchayat & enlightened gram sabha members met district's Deputy Commissioner and additional Deputy Commissioner in order to get help from district administration to start a solid waste management plant in the village. Meanwhile they organised an awareness camp at village to aware people on solid waste management with the help of an NGO from *Kaithal* district of Haryana. The villagers were told to keep organic and inorganic solid waste material separately. Dustbins were also distributed free of cost to 600 poor households of the village in these camps. The solid waste treatment plant was started in the outskirts of the village. The gram panchayats also took decision to purchase e-rickshaw to collect and transport the garbage from respective households to treatment plant. It was also devised that the salary of garbage collector rickshaw puller will be met from selling of recycled material which was very unique in terms of limited resources of panchayat. Vermi-compost

unit was also installed at the solid waste plant to use organic waste into manure through MGNREGS. Regular checks were maintained on the practices of people to dispose off their waste and if any villagers were found irregular, he was motivated by the whole gram panchayat members to follow the rest of the village. Each *Panch* (panchayat member) was designated to create awareness in their respective wards to motivate people to achieve sustainability in this exercise.

### **Steps for Dealing Solid Waste in Jhattipur village**







## 2. Steps taken by GPs for Liquid Waste Management

The village was plagued with the problem of waste water overflowing onto the streets of village. The drains were in very bad conditions and needed a lot of repair. Meanwhile, the villagers were adamant to resolve this issue and they used to taunt Sarpanch that water did not come to your house, so this is not your concern and you have don't have right to pin point on this issue. To overcome such mentality of the village's people, GP formed a youth brigade in each ward to change the existing practice of villagers and made aware them of the negative health consequences of the stagnant waste water.

Meanwhile, Gram panchayat's Water preservation committee of the village took charge for planning and construction of village's drain and sewer system. Water level map of the whole village was prepared for renewal of drain and sewerage work which was to be met through rural development scheme.

However, since the budget required for renovation and laying of the sewer and drains was quite high and it was not possible to meet it through existing flow of funds from RD schemes. It is to be mentioned here that there are few industries which are falling in the area of village, the Sarpanch met their management and convinced them to bear some of these expenses through CSR activities. The total expenditure to construct and renovate all these

infrastructure i.e drains, sewer, and ponds were estimated at total of Rs.55 to 60 lakhs. The old ponds were cleaned out from garbage of any kind and in addition, new ponds are also made to deal excess waste water. Well planned Drains and sewer system on both sides of the streets were constructed for better outlet of sewerage. Thus, the management of waste water problem was solved. The panchayat also took enough measures to sustain this model like quality material was used in construction of drains and sewers.



### **3. Elimination of Open Defecation**

One of the major problems in the village was that some villagers were practising open defecation. To curb this evil, Gram panchayat formed an "Open defecation free committee" to review this situation. A ward wise survey was conducted to verify individual household latrines (IHHL) and it found that 67 families in the village did not have their own toilet. There was also lack of any public toilet at any of the public places in village.

At first, in the wee hours of morning, a special team consisting of school children and youth of the village goes to fields and tell the people to stop open defecation as it has adverse effects on health and environment. But some people often ignore this appeal, so panchayat decided to play drums in front of their houses to make them shy. This idea worked as almost all of

these people stopped defecation in open. As many of them were very poor, panchayat helped them financially to construct toilets in their respective households. Public Toilets were also constructed at appropriate places by Sarpanch from his own pocket to facilitate his people.

#### **4. Widening of Streets and Roads**

Gram panchayat has also reconstructed all the main streets and roads of the village, while drains and sewer were constructed. In a bid to use maximum space, most of the roads and streets were widened. All the roads are well maintained and tree plantation with tree guard was done along all the streets and roads.





## 5. Cleanliness in village

The cleanliness in streets and public places were very poor before the drive of gram panchayat. The panchayat members and Sarpanch made every effort to clean his village by means of employing more resources and manpower. He employed MGNREGA workers to clean the village streets and motivate the villagers to keep Jhattipur village more clean, hygienic and eco-friendly. The effect was quite visible as the whole village was neat and clean and every corner was free of any litters. Not only this, villagers voluntarily have been participated in this drive of cleaning the village.

## 6. Vermi-Compost

Two separates units of vermi-compost were constructed in the village to make manure from the organic waste of the village. It was highly suitable for the residence as majority of them have been engaged in agriculture activity and can use this manure for their use in increasing agricultural productivity. It is also to be mentioned that both units have been constructed through MGNREGS. Vermi compost units are highly appreciable as they have been recycling solid waste into useful assets. *Farmers Soil health card* were made in order to track the systematic distribution of organic manure to every farmer which had demanded the manure.





## **7. E-Toilets and Hygiene Practices in Schools**

There are two schools in the village; one is primary and one upto matric level. The panchayat installed special electronic Toilets (e-toilets), in the primary school which is one of the major innovations in the public health, hygiene, and sanitation sector. The said e-Toilet incorporates full cycle approach in sustainable sanitation by integrating convergence of electronics, mechanical, web-mobile technologies thereby controlling entry, usage, cleaning, exit, and remote monitoring capabilities with multiple revenue options.

Whenever user opens the door of the e-Toilet, light switches on automatically, thus saving energy and even it directs the person with audio commands. The toilets are programmed to flush 1.5 litres of water after 3 minutes of usage or 4.5 litres if usage is longer. It can also be programmed to clean the platform with a complete wash down after every 5 or 10 persons use the toilet. Thus, it was very compatible to use this system in primary school as it is easy to use, hi-tech and eco- friendly with lesser use of water. Not only this, panchayat has made every effort to teach students about the benefits of safe sanitation and hygiene practices.

## **8. Tree Plantations**

Trees are an integral part of every village in India. In-fact, in earlier times, panchayat meetings and gram sabhas were used to hold under large trees. Streets, parks, playgrounds and backyards lined with trees create a peaceful, aesthetically pleasing environment. Panchayat Jhattipur along with community planted eight thousand trees in the streets of the village and its outskirts (*firni*) to preserve the environment and to promote greenery in the village.

## **9. Rain water harvesting System**

Harvesting and collection of rainwater is a proper way that can be used to address the problem of the water crisis. This effective water conservation method can be used to put forward a remarkable solution in areas where there is enough rainfall but not enough supply of groundwater. As with the ongoing rain water crisis in northern part of country with lesser and unpredictable monsoon every year, rain water harvesting system is very necessary for the present scenario. Gram panchayat Jhattipur has also recognised its importance and installed a rainwater harvesting system in the village to use every drop of water and save depleting ground water. This step of the panchayat has played a significant role in providing additional sources of water. During the dry season, people will be able to have water sources and with increased demand for water, rainwater collection can be able to meet the requirements.

## **10. Grass planting in schools/Playgrounds**

The best playground is not always the one with the biggest climbing frame or slide. Planting in schools speak to the senses and offer a very effective way for children to learn and play. Having a beautiful grassy playground with suitable flowery plants that really appeal to children which generates a healthy interest of students in nature. Keeping this in view, the Sarpanch of the village has planted grass in the primary school of the village and other playgrounds of the village.

## 11. Installations of Solar lights

Renewable energy sources are not only eco-friendly but also a cheap source of energy. One such source that is easily available throughout the year is solar energy. Solar panelled street lights are quite popular in rural areas as they are durable and almost they have negligible usage of bills. The gram panchayat Jhattipur has installed solar lights at every important places including of streets and *Phirni* of the village.



## 12. Provision of Free Wi-Fi system in village

In a bid to promote e- literacy in the village, the panchayat has given free Wi-Fi internet to its residents. They had mounted a Wi-Fi hotspot on a special tower through which villagers can use internet while connected to this system via their cell phones. Free internet access has taken on greater importance in the village as Jhattipur has become the first cashless village in the state and thus, it is a successful model of cashless digital economy in rural India.



### **13. CCTV coverage of village**

For female security and village supervision, Sixty four (64) CCTVs cameras were installed in the village. This step has ensured public safety and incidence of eve teasing and theft has become lesser in the village after the installations of the CCTVs coverage.

### **14. Loud Speakers for Announcements**

Thirty Six (36) Loud speakers have been installed at different part of the village for providing any kind of information to the whole village. These loud speakers have been installed at every corner of the village. Whenever ration is to be distributed or any other important information has to be given to villagers, these loud speakers were used for providing information to the people.

### **15. Cashless Operations/ Financial literacy**

Ever since demonetisation was announced on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Jhattipur village was become centre of media attentions due to its 'transformation', as 100 percent cashless village, credited go to Sarpanch of the village. He also brought ICICI's "Digital Villages" project to village. By the end of December, Jhattipur was one of hundreds of villages that the bank adopted to introduce such programmes as creating a digital payment ecosystem for financial activity, providing free vocational training and facilitating market linkages. This drive has also become instrumental in rural financial literacy as every villager holds an account with ICICI Bank or *Sarva Haryana Gramin Bank*.

### **16. Gymnasiums / Playgrounds / Yogshala**

Since the whole exercise was implemented and executed with a whole hearted support from the youth of the village, the gram panchayat has planned to implement some activities exclusively meant for the youth of the

Jhattipur village. Construction of a gymnasium in the village was proved to be a very lucrative asset for the youths aspiring to do exercise with modern tools and equipments. A playground was also constructed for extending sports activities in the village. A *Yogshala* has been also created in the wake of ongoing increased interest in the Indian *Yoga* in the recent years.



### **17. Construction of Lake**

An ongoing construction of lake is also in progress in the village and the Sarpanch told us that he has planned to develop it as a major tourist attraction.

### **18. Accolades/Awards/ Recognition**

The Jhattipur village has been awarded many times by centre and state government for its efforts on achieving success in multifaceted development works. The village has been also subject to various documentaries and coverage from various news channels.





### हरियाणा में दो माह में दिखने लगा पढ़ी-लिखी पंचायत का बदलाव

#### इटदीपुर की आबादी 6 हजार, 99% घरों में टॉयलेट

हरियाणा में दो माह में दिखने लगा पढ़ी-लिखी पंचायत का बदलाव। इटदीपुर की आबादी 6 हजार, 99% घरों में टॉयलेट।

### बिना सरकारी मदद वाईफाई गांव; हर गली में सफाई कर्मी, स्मार्ट क्लास में पढ़ाई, महिला सुरक्षा के लिए सीसीटीवी कैमरे

बिना सरकारी मदद वाईफाई गांव; हर गली में सफाई कर्मी, स्मार्ट क्लास में पढ़ाई, महिला सुरक्षा के लिए सीसीटीवी कैमरे।

### हरियाणा में पढ़ी-लिखी पंचायत बिना सरकारी मदद वाईफाई गांव; हर गली में सफाई कर्मी स्मार्ट क्लास में पढ़ाई, महिला सुरक्षा के लिए कैमरे



### घर से खेलने के लिए निकला 8वीं का छात्र लापता

घर से निकले गांव पढ़ी-लिखी पंचायत की छात्रा का घर से लापता।

### घरों से कूड़ा उठाएगी ई-रिक्शा, सॉलिड वेस्ट मैनेजमेंट के जरिए कूड़े से निकलेगी आमदनी

स्वच्छता अभियान से ब्यूटीफूल विलेज बनेगा इटदीपुर। 600 परिवारों को दो-दो इन्टरनेट वितरित किए।

### हरियाणा में पहली बार पढ़ी-लिखी पंचायत चुनी है।

हरियाणा में पहली बार पढ़ी-लिखी पंचायत चुनी है। इसका अस्सर भी दिखने लगा है।



### ऐसे जुटाया पैसा...

काम के लिए पैसे की जरूरत थी। शुरू में प्रस्ताव बनाए।

## **Learning Outcomes for replication**

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Lessons learned in the process of documenting accelerated implementation of evidence-based best practices has compelling results which needs to be replicated at various other similar avenues which are lagging behind in sanitation coverage. The village Jhattipur has focused on three following aspects which has led it to excel and achieve documented best practices which are recommended for replication;

### **1. Identification of Leaders**

The success story of Jhattipur village is made only possible due to the able leadership of Gram panchayat's Sarpanch (village head). His higher education with leadership skills and willingness has shown that any sincere efforts can brought any desired long term changes in the local development. His efforts motivated the whole of community including youths to participate in the sanitation drive irrespective of their caste and creed. This factor proved that any movement irrespective of its cause needs dedicated and able leadership to succeed.

The best practice at Jhattipur village can be used as replicable model as such similar active persons (as observed from present study) from PRIs members, equipped with zeal, energy, dedication and technical know-how may be identified and engaged to motivate other panchayats initially within the district and further at state level. A panel of such identified leaders may be made at block and district level and they can further share their own experiences and strategies to sensitise and motivate other PRIs members on how to achieve similar success in promoting sanitation activities in their respective villages.



## **2. Utilising Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds to drive sanitation movement**

Corporate Social Responsibility, often called "CSR" is initiatives or accountability of corporates to participate in the development of their catchment area through environmental and social wellbeing. The efforts made under CSR go beyond what may be required by regulators or environmental protection group. The term often recognised as "corporate citizenship" and it can involve short-term cost that promotes positive social and environmental change in the area. The same has been observed in the best practice of Jhattipur village as CSR activities have been directed for creating ample infrastructure under sanitation and other related facilities in the village. The village's Sarpanch had approached all the industrial units being located in the vicinity of the village, and had motivated them to route their CSR activities and funds towards mobilising sanitation and eco-friendly activities in the village.

Thus, this practice can be replicable all over the country and panchayats shall be sensitise to approach any industries falling within the purview of panchayat to flow their CSR funds to create adequate sanitation structure as per the requirement of their panchayats with the assistance of department of industries and district administration.

Since, there are plenty's of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and industrial hubs all over the country and interestingly, majority of them are located in the rural areas. Thus, seeing the impact and role of CSR in development of rural areas/villages, a special strategy can be formed to use CSR funds, especially to address rural sanitation in the villages. However, one of key concern with this activity is that CSR funds are mostly benchmarked for the specific area or panchayat/s falling in the catchment of respective industrial unit. Sometime this kind of restrictions can cause overflowing of funds to a particular area

and adjoining areas remained neglected and fully dependent of government funds. Thus, it is also suggested that a certain percent of funds from total CSR may be benchmarked at district and state level for addressing sanitation activities in other panchayats or areas where such industrial units/hubs are absent.

### **3. Harnessing Youth Energy**

India having more than 50 percent of its population below the age of 25 and more than 65 percent below the age of 35, has the potential to use this human resource in every sphere of the sustainable development. With the advent of new technologies and extension of education system all over the country, the youth of India has become responsive to the ongoing drive to change the nation and in achieving *Sustainable Development Universal* goals 2030. The energy and aspiration of the Indian youth especially in the rural areas can motivate them to participate in the sanitation drive. The economic reforms leading to the rural transformation have brought changes in the rural settings and subsequently inspired rural youths to transform their villages as par with urban facilities and technologies especially co-related to the sanitation and such similar facilities.

This similar situation witnessed in this village can be replicable in the other parts of the country as youths have actively participated and collaborated with the panchayat to brought and create sanitation and other related facilities as well as the activity concerned with environment protection. However, it was also observed that panchayat has took several steps to attract youth to participate in this sanitation drive, like, construction of playgrounds, provision of sports complex, *yogshala*, open gymnasium and free wi-fi internet facilities in the village. Similarly, other gram panchayats all around the country can initiate and implement such activities to draw the attention of youths and

make them more productive by collaborating them in development of village especially in the sanitation movement.

## **Way forward**

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The main lesson learnt from this village that the PRIs can drive any change and overcome any challenge pose for the development of the village. This best practice has also established the fact that education plays an important role in progress of any society. The young village head delivered what he had dreamed to make the impossible change amid factionalism. It also showed us that a dedicated set of mindsets are required to bring any change in the situation. The campaign's success is additionally due to the whole hearted support from the district administration and above all the residents of the Jhattipur village coming forward to embrace this positive change in their lifestyle.

The best practices at Jhattipur village are progressing at a rapid pace, with more and more activities becoming part of this campaign and show the commitment of the panchayat members to deliver services at every doorstep.



## Acknowledgements

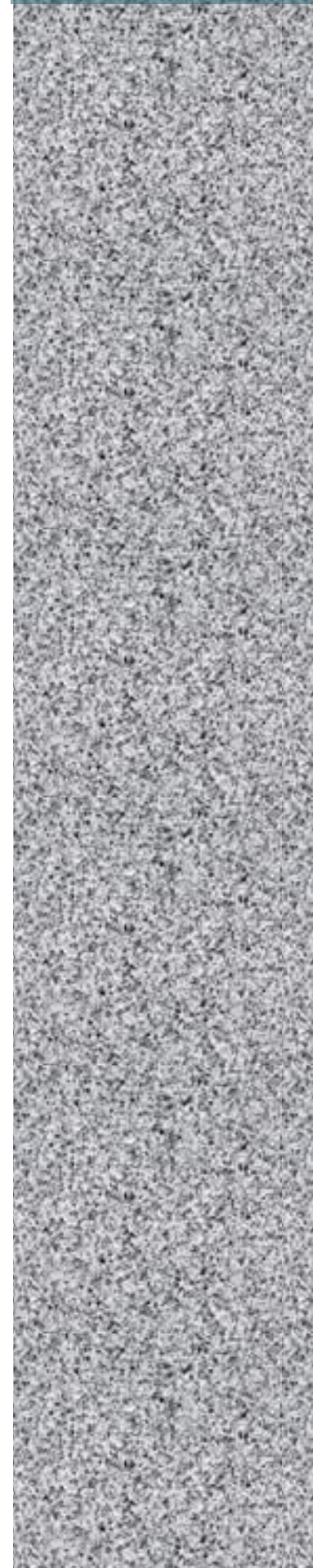
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